

automatically selecting a subsequent episode of the series of the digital content, wherein the subsequent episode is no greater than a predetermined playback time; and
storing the subsequent episode in the playback device.

33. (New) The method of claim 32 wherein the predetermined playback time is approximately equal to a maximum playback time designated by the user for the particular digital content.

34. (New) The method of claim 32 further comprising:
storing a first subset of digital content;
consuming a portion of the first subset of digital content; and
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automatically selecting a second subset of digital content to update the consumed portion of the first subset of digital content, wherein the unconsumed portion of the first subset of digital content and the second subset of digital content together provide a playback time approximately equal to a playback time of the first subset of digital content.

35. (New) A network comprising:
a server device to store digital content and to provide the digital content to other devices on the network;
a data retrieval device coupled with the server device; and
a playback device to store and to playback the digital content coupled with the data retrieval device, the playback device to store a most-recent episode of a series of digital content, and to have the digital content automatically updated from the server device with a subsequent episode of the series of digital content to store on the playback device.

36. (New) The network of claim 35 wherein the server device is to automatically push the subsequent episode of the series of digital content to update the digital content stored on the playback device.

37. (New) The network of claim 35 wherein the data retrieval device is to automatically retrieve the subsequent episode of the series of digital content from the server device to update the digital content stored on the playback device.

38. (New) The network of claim 35 wherein the playback device is to automatically retrieve the subsequent episode of the series of digital content from the server device to update the digital content stored on the playback device.

39. (New) The network of claim 35 further comprising the playback device to store a first subset of digital content, to consume a portion of the first subset of digital content, and to have the digital content automatically updated from the server device with a second subset of digital content, wherein the unconsumed portion of the first subset of digital content and the second subset of digital content together provide a playback time approximately equal to a playback time of the first subset of digital content.
